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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4670
INFO RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA 0176
RUEHAS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS 3455
RUEHBP/AMEMBASSY BAMAKO 0470
RUEHDK/AMEMBASSY DAKAR 1943
RUEHNJ/AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA 1555
RUEHNK/AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT 4791
RUEHOU/AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU 8654
RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT 1735
RUEHTRO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
RUEHTU/AMEMBASSY TUNIS 0201
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RHMFSS/Joint STAFF WASHINGTON DC
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RHMFSS/HQ USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE
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TAGS: PGOV PREL PTER NG UV XA XI

SUBJECT: NIGER: BURKINA FASO MEMBERSHIP IN THE TRANS-SAHARA
COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIP (TSCTP)

REF: SECSTATE 115500

Classified By: Ambassador Bernadette M. Allen, Reason: 1.4 (a) and
(d)

¶1. (C) On November 4, 2008, using reftel talking points, Ambassador Allen raised with Government of Niger (GON) Foreign Minister (FM) Aïchatou Mindaoudou the USG interest in inviting the Government of Burkina Faso to participate in the TSCTP. When asked for the GON's views on the matter and suggestions on Burkina Faso's possible integration into the TSCTP, the FM responded she didn't anticipate any objections on the part of the GON, that the Burkinabe have been good partners in the region. She indicated she would raise the matter with GON President Mamadou Tandja and relevant Ministers. She added that if there were any particular concerns that the GON would inform the Embassy within the next few days. As of November 10, 2008, no subsequent GON suggestions or concerns have been raised or brought to the U.S. Embassy's attention with regard to Burkinabe participation in TSCTP.

(Note: The GON Americas Desk Director, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Country Program Manager and USAID Millennium Challenge Account Niger Threshold Program Manager were in attendance at the meeting that also covered supplemental food security assistance (resulting from the Farm Bill) and the Millennium Challenge Corporation FY09 scorecard for Niger. End note.)

¶2. (U) Tripoli minimize considered.

ALLEN